

Everyone knows the feeling of anticipation one gets while waiting for his or her favorite athlete, musician, or movie star to appear on the court, stage, or big screen. Some people have expressed beliefs that these talented people are overpaid. Because of their talent, time away from their families, and philanthropic work, these celebrities do deserve to earn large salaries.

The first reason I believe celebrities are not paid too much is that they have raw talent. These people are very blessed in the fact that they have discovered and developed their special gifts. The powerful attorney uses his or her clever mind to win cases and make big bucks; likewise, celebrities should be paid well for properly using their talents. The American public shells out millions of dollars to see them every year, and this money should be returned to them.

Another reason I feel that celebrities deserve their salaries is that they spend large amounts of time away from their families. Just a few days ago, I heard an interview with Reba McEntire. Between taping her hot television show that airs on the WB and recording country music, she is left with very little time to spend with her young son. Celebrities pay a very high

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price for their careers; therefore, they deserve just payment in return.

Still another reason I feel that celebrities should be paid well is that many of these people are very philanthropic. Angelina Jolie's face is on the cover of every magazine these days; however, some of these covers are promoting her work with children in third world countries. The cast of ABC's hit TV show *Desperate Housewives* donate formal dresses to charity. Many celebrities donate to large charity organizations and foundations.

In conclusion, celebrities are not overpaid. Many of these people deserve the large salaries that are going into their bank accounts. These talented people deserve to be well paid for their time. The constant family strain is hard on them, too. Many celebrities are truly good people that give back to their communities and world. These people deserve everything they receive. They are often good role models for society. Hard work and a good attitude should be justly rewarded.

Score Point: 6

This response reflects an outstanding degree of proficiency in persuasive writing skills. The writer clearly disagrees that celebrities make more money than they deserve. The key ideas are specific, well developed, and thoughtful (celebrities should be paid well for properly using their talents, they deserve just payment for time away from their families, and they give back to their communities and the world). Syntactic variety and facility in the use of language are clearly displayed and sustained. The response is complete and unified with a strong persuasive tone throughout.



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